National and multilateral initiatives, existing or under development, include:

- o IOC programme on the international exchange of data and information;
- o GOOS, a cooperative programme of States and the organizations of the United Nations system on ocean observation and the related ARGO project;
- o the efforts of FAO relating to information on status and trends with respect to fisheries and marine living resources, including the development of an international plan of action (IPOA) and assistance in national capacity-building in fishery statistics; the IOC-WMO Joint Technical Commission on Oceanography and Marine Meteorology;
- o the development and implementation jointly by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United States of America of GEF-supported ecosystem-based international waters projects involving 16 countries in Africa;

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